

Message Text

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ACTION AF-02

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 INR-01 /005 W

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FM AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

TO USINFO WASHDC

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 0134

UNCLAS YAOUNDE 4230

FOR IBS NEWS COVERAGE DESK ATTENTION AFRICAN DIVISION

PASS IPS AFRICA BRANCH, IAA

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: CAMEROONIAN PRESIDENT ORDERS INVESTIGATION OF SOCCER INCIDENT

CAMEROONIAN PRESIDENT AHMADOU AHIDJO HAS ORDERED AN INVESTIGATION INTO AN INCIDENT THAT PREMATURELY ENDED A CHAMPIONSHIP SOCCER GAME BETWEEN THE NATIONAL TEAMS OF CAMEROON AND CONGO BRAZZAVILLE LAST SUNDAY, AND COST AT LEAST ONE LIFE.

THE INCIDENT OCCURRED IN CAMEROON S CAPITAL OF YAOUNDE AT A GAME BETWEEN CAMEROON S INDOMITABLE LIONS AND THE CONGO S RED DEVILS.

THE RED DEVILS WERE LEADING TWO GOALS TO ONE WHEN THE REFEREE, A GAMBIAN, CALLED A PENALTY ON THE CONGO FOR FOULING A CAMEROONIAN PLAYER. THE PENALTY WAS DISPUTED BY THE CONGOLESE GOALEE, WHO STRUCK AND KNOCKED DOWN THE REFEREE. PLAYERS AND SPECTORS POURED ONTO THE FIELD, AND IN THE ENSUING MELEE, SEVERAL PEOPLE WERE INJURED, SOME SERIOUSLY.

ACCORDING TO EYEWITNESS REPORTS, SEVERAL CAMEROONIAN PLAYERS AND POLICEMEN WERE BADLY BEATEN WHEN THEY TRIED TO PROTECT THE VASTLY OUTNUMBERED CONGOLESE. AMONG THE INJURED WAS THE DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE GENDARMERIE OF YAOUNDE, MR. ONGUENE LUC, WHO DIED THE NEXT DAY.

POLICE AND MILITARY MEN WHO WERE PRESENT JOINED IN THE FIGHTING INSTEAD OF ATTEMPTING TO CONTAIN IT.

CAMEROONIAN PRESS REPORTS SAID THAT PRESIDENT AHIDJO ON NOVEMBER 3 CONDEMNED THE DISORDERLY INTERVENTION OF CERTAIN

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ELEMENTS OF THE FORCES OF LAW AND ORDER AND ORDERED AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION TO LOCATE THE TROUBLE-MAKERS

AND PUNISH THEM SEVERELY. ITEM.
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Message Attributes

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